

CONFIDENTIAL

14 March 1952

25X1

Handwritten: [unclear]

[Redacted]
Chief, Mediterranean Bureau
Foreign Broadcast Information Service
Post Office Box 1
Nicosia, Cyprus

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Dear Rogers:

I am in receipt of a letter from [Redacted] saying that Frost had asked him to suggest to me the possibility that some request might have to be made of us ultimately to share or assume the cost of the Kyrenia-London circuit.

In my view this is not the proper way to handle such a serious subject, and I wish to avoid basing a formal reply on it. Therefore, I would appreciate it if in conversation with Ramsey you could lead into a discussion of communications and indicate your belief based on discussion with me that if THIS were forced to share or assume the cost of the Kyrenia-London circuit, we would first have to consider the following alternatives: (a) Persisting in securing authority to use the State Department station; (b) Requiring the BBC to share the expense of transmitting traffic from the Far East and the United States to London.

I am confident that Ramsey will relay this information to Frost, and we will have expressed our position without having made any formal commitment.

I am sending a copy of this letter to May so that he may know what action we are taking. In addition, I am raising this possibility here in Washington, and proposing the following alternatives in relative order of acceptability. Note that alternative 4 is practically out of the question.

1. Full use of State Department station to Washington,
2. Full use of State Department station to London,
3. Commercial filing to London,
4. Commercial filing to Washington.

Alternative 1 would appear to have the most advantages, especially as regards speed and economy, but alternative 2 would allow better coordination of Caversham-Kyrenia coverage than alternative 1.

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We will certainly have to discuss this fully and carefully on your return.

Sincerely,

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Copy: Chief, London Bureau - 1
AMW/pgc
Addressee - Orig & 1
BBC file - 1 ✓
Admin file - 1
Circulating - 1

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P. S. This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5 March on the Chief Monitor position, which I think is adequately answered by the assignment of [] to your Bureau.

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